



Association of Bay Area Governments  
Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission

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## Joint Policy Committee / Regional Planning Program

Date: July 13, 2006  
To: Joint Policy Committee  
From: Regional Planning Program Director  
Subject: *Focusing Our Vision* Progress Report

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This memo provides a brief report on progress on the *Focusing Our Vision* (FOCUS) program since the JPC last met in May.

### Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TAC is composed of local government representatives from each of the nine Bay Area Counties and of representatives of a number of other regional interests. It has now had two monthly meetings and is making good progress in helping us refine and apply criteria for identifying Priority Development Areas and Priority Conservation Areas. The next meeting is scheduled for July 27<sup>th</sup>. Meetings are coordinated with those of the Housing Methodology Committee, which is overseeing the shorter-term Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process, and the two committees share some members. We are grateful to the Bay Conservation and Development Commission for providing meeting space.

We are aiming for a draft identification of priority areas with sketchy boundaries by mid-Fall. We will then enter into a collaborative process directly with local governments to confirm these areas and identify more precise boundaries. The role of priority criteria that cannot be mapped will also be worked out with the TAC and directly with local governments.

### Data Collection and Analysis

The compilation and cataloguing of information to be used for the identification and refinement of priority areas continues, and example analyses have been vetted with the TAC. Spatial modeling tools are also being developed and tested.

### Reports Relating to FOCUS

Over the past few weeks, four significant reports have been released from three separate sources. Individually and collectively, these documents have a great deal to say about the issues prompting FOCUS and about the FOCUS effort itself. The reports are:

*Blueprint Planning in California: Forging Consensus on Metropolitan Growth and Development* by Elisa Barbour and Michael Tietz, Public Policy Institute of California, June 21, 2006

(<http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=693>);

*At Risk: The Bay Area Greenbelt, 2006 Edition*, Greenbelt Alliance, 2006

([http://www.greenbelt.org/resources/reports/atrisk\\_2006/index.html](http://www.greenbelt.org/resources/reports/atrisk_2006/index.html))

*Bay Area Smart Growth Scorecard, 2006*, Greenbelt Alliance, 2006

(<http://www.greenbelt.org/resources/reports/index.html#openspace>)

*A Place to Call Home: Housing in the San Francisco Bay Area*, Association of Bay Area Governments, 2006

(<http://www.abag.ca.gov/planning/housingneeds/resources.html>)

Copies of the Greenbelt Alliance reports have been distributed to JPC members directly by Greenbelt. Copies of the other reports are included with this memo for JPC members only. All reports are available for free download at the links indicated.

At the JPC meeting, staff will do a presentation summarizing the four reports, their relationship to one another, and their implications for the *Focusing Our Vision* program.